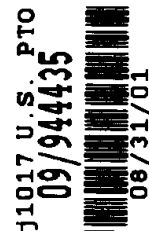


In the United States Patent and Trademark Office



Applicants: Midkiff et al. Docket No.: 15,780
Serial No.: Group:
Filed: Examiner:
For: SUPPORTED NONWOVEN AND
METHOD FOR PRODUCING
SAME

Handwritten: 12-10 01

**Information Disclosure Statement Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b)
Before First Office Action or Within Three Months of Filing Date**

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.56 and in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97 et seq., Applicants, through and by their attorneys, hereby wish to direct the Examiner's attention to the documents listed on the modified PTO 1449 Form and the copies of those documents presented herewith for the Examiner's review and convenience.

By inclusion of any given document in this Information Disclosure Statement, Applicants in no way admit that such document is effective as prior art against the above-identified application under either 35 U.S.C. 102 or 35 U.S.C. 103.

Additionally, submission of any document is not to be taken as an admission of the materiality of the document to the prosecution of the present application.

The Examiner is requested to review each cited document and personally determine its prior art status.

Applicants recommend that the Examiner conduct an independent search for any and all available material prior art and independently review the results of such search and the documents cited within this Statement.

Applicants request the Examiner, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97, to indicate and make of record receipt and review of all of these documents by initialing the appropriate box in the accompanying PTO-1449. Applicants request that the undersigned receive a copy of the initialed PTO-1449.


If the Examiner refuses to consider any or all of the herein submitted materials because it is the Examiner's opinion that this Information Disclosure Statement is not in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner notify the undersigned, in writing, as to the basis of such opinion.

Please charge any prosecutorial fees which are due to Kimberly-Clark Worldwide, Inc. deposit account number 11-0875.

The undersigned may be reached at: (770) 587-7183.


Respectfully submitted,

MIDKIFF ET AL.

By: 
William W. Letson
Registration No.: 42,797

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I, William W. Letson, hereby certify that on August 31, 2001 this document is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

By: 
William W. Letson

List of Pat nts and Publications for Information Disclosur Statem nt

Applicant(s): David Grant Midkiff et al.

Docket 15,780

Serial No.:

Group:

Filed:

Examiner:

 11017 U.S. PTO
 09/944435
 08/31/01

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Init		Doc. No.	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date
	A1	4,455,195	06/19/84	Kinsley			
	A2	4,455,237	06/19/84	Kinsley			
	A3	4,629,474	12/16/86	Thorton			
	A4	4,714,647	12/22/87	Shipp, Jr. et al.			
	A5	4,874,659	10/17/89	Ando et al.			
	A6	5,038,775	08/13/91	Maruscak et al.			
	A7	5,057,710	10/15/91	Nishiura et al.			
	A8	5,098,767	03/24/92	Linnersten			
	A9	5,397,632	03/14/95	Murphy, Jr. et al.			
	A10	5,419,953	05/30/95	Chapman			
	A11	5,496,507	03/05/96	Angadjivand et al.			
	A12	5,509,950	04/23/96	Van De Graaf et al.			
	A13	5,531,892	07/02/96	Duffy			
	A14	5,597,645	01/28/97	Pike et al.			
	A15	5,620,545	04/15/97	Braun et al.			
	A16	5,672,399	09/30/97	Kahlbaugh et al.			
	A17	5,709,735	01/20/98	Midkiff et al.			
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	A21	5,800,769	09/01/98	Haskett			
	A22	5,820,645	10/13/98	Murphy, Jr. et al.			
	A23	5,855,784	01/05/99	Pike et al.			
	A24	5,871,836	02/16/99	Schultink et al.			
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	A31	6,063,167	05/16/00	Rutkowski			
	A32	6,090,731	07/18/00	Pike et al.			
	A33	6,110,260	08/29/00	Kubokawa			
	A34	6,119,691	09/19/00	Angadjivand et al.			

List of Patents and Publications for Information Disclosure Statement

Applicant(s): David Grant Midkiff et al.
 Serial No.:
 Filed:

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 Examiner:

Foreign Patent Documents

Init	Doc. No.	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Trans.	
						Yes	No
	A1	08-143,730	06/04/96	JP (Derwent Abstract Only)			
	A2	0 726 348 A1	08/14/96	European			
	A3	0 825 287 A1	02/25/98	European			
	A4	0 980 700 A2	02/23/00	European			
	A5	1 005 891 A1	06/07/00	European			
	A6	97/37,071 (See Attached EP # 0 831 161 A1 for Translation)	10/09/97	WO			
	A7	98/01,212	01/15/98	WO			
	A8	99/65,593	12/23/99	WO			
	A9	00/00,263	01/06/00	WO			
	A10	00/10,685	03/02/00	WO			
	A11	00/12,194	03/09/00	WO			
	A12	00/44,472	08/03/00	WO			

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609.
 Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include a copy of this form with
 your next communication.

Examiner:

Date Considered: